

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION NEA-07

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7264

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LIMDIS

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, BG, US

SUBJ: END OF ANTI-AMERICAN ATTACKS?

REFS: DACCA'S 2243 AND 2340

1. PRESIDENT MUJIB'S ECONOMIC ADVISER SATTAR TOLD ME SUNDAY THAT THE PRESIDENT HAD ASKED HIM TO SPEAK TO ME TO POINT OUT THAT HE HAD TAKEN UP THE QUESTION OF ATTACKS ON FRIENDLY GOVERNMENTS IN HIS SPEECH TO THE BAKSAL CENTRAL COMMITTEE JUNE 19. THE PRESIDENT'S ADMONITION, HE NOTED, HAD COVERED BOTH ATTACKS ON FRIENDLY COUNTRIES BY HIS GOVERNMENT MINISTERS AND ALSO USE OF BDG TERRITORY FOR ATTACKS ON OTHER GOVERNMENTS BY THIRD COUNTRIES. THIS WAS INTENDED TO STOP STATEMENTS SUCH AS THOSE IN MAY ABOUT "AMERICAN IMPERIALISM." SATTAR SAID THAT HE (SATTAR) AND "OTHERS" HAD PRESSED MUJIB TO TAKE THIS ACTION, EMPHASIZING TO HIM THAT HE HAD TAKEN INTO THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE SOME COMMUNIST MEMBERS AND THAT NOW WAS THEREFORE THE TIME TO MAKE IT CLEAR THAT SUCH ATTACKS WOULD NOT BE TOLERATED. IF HE DIDN'T DO IT NOW, THEY HAD SAID, IT WOULD BE MORE DIFFICULT LATER ON.

2. I SAID I HAD READ THE PRESIDENT'S SPEECH AND WAS INTERESTED TO SEE THAT HIS STATEMENT ON THIS SUBJECT WAS CONFIDENTIAL

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PRETTY STRONG. SATTAR REPLIED THAT THE PRESIDENT'S ACTUAL

WORDS HAD BEEN EVEN STRONGER THAN THOSE REPORTED IN THE PRESS. WHEN I NOTED THAT SOME OF THE SHARPEST ATTACKS HAD COME FROM BAKSAL LEADERS WHO WERE NOT IN THE GOVERNMENT, SATTAR SAID: "THAT WILL STOP TOO. THEY WILL ALL STOP."

3. FOR DEPARTMENT'S INFORMATION, FOLLOWING IS ABSTRACT OF RELEVANT PORTIONS OF MUJIB'S SPEECH. AFTER COMPLAINING THAT BANGLADESH HAD BECOME "A HOTBED OF INTERNATIONAL POLITICS", MUJIB ASKED, "WHAT IS THE REASON FOR ABUSING ONE ANOTHER IN MY SOIL? YOU GO TO YOUR OWN COUNTRIES AND DO ABUSE. THERE IS DIPLOMATIC DECORUM. STAYING IN THIS COUNTRY IS NOT PROPER TO ABUSE ANOTHER COUNTRY. WHAT GOOD YOU HAVE TO SAY ABOUT YOUR OWN COUNTRY, YOU TELL IT HEP." MUJIB THEN CALLED UPON MEMBERS OF BAKSAL TO TAKE A POSITIVE APPROACH. MUJIB ALSO LINKED THIS POINT TO HIS RECOGNITION OF CAMBODIA AND PRG: "I WILL SUPPORT THOSE WHO ARE FIGHTING FOR THEIR MOTHERLAND. BUT FOR THAT I WILL NOT ABUSE OTHERS. I WILL REQUEST YOU PARTICULARLY ABOUT THIS."

BOSTER

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